JC14 Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 MAR 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV520562281US, in an envelope addressed to: MS PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 23, 2005

Signature: Man DiPalme

Docket No.: CKFW-P01-012 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Janet A. Halliday et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 23, 2005

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

For: WATER-SWELLABLE POLYMERS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.